

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Original) A cooling system for an oxygen based metallurgical converter having a vessel supported in a trunnion ring, the trunnion ring having an interior surface and a portion of the vessel being in a spaced relationship from the interior surface of the trunnion ring, said cooling system comprising:
  - (a) one or more cooling panels;
  - (b) each of said cooling panels includes a bracket for coupling said cooling panel to the trunnion ring, said cooling panels being mounted to the surface of the trunnion ring and being positioned adjacent the vessel;
  - (c) each of said cooling panels having an inlet for receiving a coolant, and an outlet for outputting the coolant; and
  - (d) the inlet of each of said cooling panels being coupled to a coolant supply, and the outlet of each of said cooling panels providing a drain outlet for the coolant.
2. (Original) The cooling system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said cooling panel comprises a network of conduits for circulating the coolant inside said cooling panel between said inlet and said outlet.
3. (Original) The cooling system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said bracket includes a threaded fastener for securing said cooling panel to the trunnion ring.
4. (Original) The cooling system as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein said cooling panels are detachably mounted to the trunnion ring, and the cooling panels are detachable for replacement or repair.
5. (Currently Amended) ~~An oxygen based~~ A metallurgical converter comprising:
  - (a) a converter vessel;

- (b) a trunnion ring for carrying the vessel;
- (c) a drive mechanism coupled to the trunnion ring and being operable for tilting the converter vessel;
- (d) a plurality of cooling panels, each of said cooling panels having a mounting bracket for coupling the cooling panels to the trunnion ring, said cooling panels being located between said trunnion ring and said vessel;
- (e) each of said cooling panels having an inlet for receiving a coolant, and an outlet for outputting the coolant; and
- (f) the inlet of each of said cooling panels being coupled to a coolant supply, and the outlet of each of said cooling panels providing a drain outlet for the coolant.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~cooling system~~ metallurgical converter as claimed in claim 5, wherein said cooling panel comprises a network of conduits for circulating the coolant inside said cooling panel between said inlet and said outlet.

Claims 7-8 (Cancelled).

9. (New) The metallurgical converter as claimed in claim 5, wherein said converter is an oxygen based metallurgical converter.

10. (New) The metallurgical converter as claimed in claim 5, wherein said converter is an argon oxygen decarburization converter.

11. (New) The metallurgical converter as claimed in claim 10, wherein said cooling panel comprises a network of conduits for circulating the coolant inside said cooling panel between said inlet and said outlet.